



Mrs. Shanda Denise McGruder-Morris

February 1, 1970 - August 1, 2024

Mrs. Shanda Denise McGruder-Morris, 54, of Peoria, IL passed away at 6:39 pm on Thursday, August 1, 2024 at OSF St. Francis Medical Center surrounded by her family.

Shanda was born on February 1, 1970 in Hannibal, MO to Jeanette McGruder and Walter Merle Ward. She married Charlie Morris in Peoria, IL.

Shanda attended Woodruff High School where she played basketball, track and was a member of the school chorus. She was a homemaker. Shanda loved dancing and singing; especially to Michael Jackson and NBA Youngboy songs. She loved spending time with her children, grandchildren and family. Shanda was a member of Tabernacle M.B. Church and occasionally attended Riverside Community Church.

Shanda leaves to cherish her precious memory her husband of 11 ½ years, Charlie Morris of Peoria, IL; her mother, Jeanette Harris of Peoria, IL; three sons, Amaru Smith of Phoenix AZ, Ameridro Smith of Hannibal, MO and Ameridon Smith of Phoenix, AZ; three daughters, Ameriah (David) Heerman, Ameena Smith and Aleecia Smith all of Peoria, IL; two brothers, Phillip Ward of Peoria, IL and Anthony (LaQuicia) Ward of Hannibal, MO; eleven sisters, Kathy (Billy) Buckner of Fayetteville, NC, Tammie (Dwayne) Williams of Gulf Breeze, FL, Monique (Tony) Harrison and Markelia (Travis) McGruder-Ball

both of St. Louis, MO, Sheila (Drew) Henderson and Terry Elzea both of Quincy, IL, Shellie (Kevin) Knox, Shalonda (Don) Knox, and Marcola Owens all of Peoria, IL, Monica (Randy) Fritz of Pekin, IL and Shakira (Rodney) Moffett of Ewa Beach, HI; ten grandchildren and a host of aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends who loved her dearly. She is preceded in death by her father; one brother, Marvin Ward; one sister, Merle Janet Pearson and nephew, Nathan Knox.

Funeral services will be held at 2 pm on Saturday, August 10, 2024 at Sovereign Grace M.B. Church with a visitation one-hour prior beginning at 1 pm. Pastor Charles Johnson, Sr. of Tabernacle M.B. Church will officiate.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at SimonsMortuary.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 10. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Sovereign Grace M.B. Church
1505 W. Martin Street
Peoria, IL 61605

Celebration of Life

AUG 10. 2:00 PM - 3:15 PM (CT)

Sovereign Grace M.B. Church
1505 W. Martin Street
Peoria, IL 61605

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Shanda Denise McGruder-Morris*



Simons Mortuary - August 12, 2024 at 03:34 PM



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mrs. Shanda Denise McGruder-Morris*



Simons Mortuary - August 08, 2024 at 03:28 PM

SH

Just beautiful, pictures are truly more than 1000 words. This just showed how beautiful Shan was inside and out and how much she loved her family. You are missed already cousin. Love you.

Shantel - August 09, 2024 at 10:41 AM

GS

“ I share quite a bit of memories with Shanda my biggest regret I let my insecurities stop me from taking pictures so all my memories I have with my sister in love is in my heart where she always be sending love and prayers to all her siblings my nieces and nephews her grand babies, her mother and her husband 🙏💕🙏💕

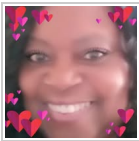
Gloria Smith - August 10, 2024 at 01:51 PM

KB

“ Shan my beautiful, vivacious, loving sister. I'm going to miss you.

Your sis : Kathy

Kathy Buckner - August 10, 2024 at 10:53 AM



“ Darlene Horton lit a candle in memory of Shanda McGruder-Morris



Darlene Horton - August 09, 2024 at 02:54 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mrs. Shanda Denise McGruder-Morris.



August 08, 2024 at 09:52 PM

SG

“ Stacy Morris and Darius Brown-Albany GA planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Shanda Denise McGruder-Morris.

Stacy Morris and Darius Brown-Albany GA - August 08, 2024 at 09:52 PM

SW

“ Shan is no longer in pain, We're positive that she knows she will forever be missed and loved by many. Rest your weary souls and she will continue to rest in peace and just know she will forever watch over you all. We will continue to keep you all in our prayers. Love you family.

Sondra and her 4 1 (with wings)= 5 for Eternity

Shantel White - August 08, 2024 at 02:40 PM

SW

“ Shantel White lit a candle in memory of Shanda McGruder-Morris



Shantel White - August 08, 2024 at 02:32 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Mrs. Shanda Denise McGruder-Morris.



August 07, 2024 at 01:03 PM

LW

“ I will miss you Shan! You were one of my first friends when I moved to Peoria!!



LaVerne Williams - August 07, 2024 at 09:50 AM

MC

“ Margaret Chandler-Bryson lit a candle in memory of Shanda McGruder-Morris



Margaret Chandler-Bryson - August 07, 2024 at 09:47 AM

AL

“ The best mom ever! I love you and you'll forever live thru me. mommy💕💕💕💕

aleeciasmith - August 07, 2024 at 03:51 AM

DA

“ David lit a candle in memory of Shanda McGruder-Morris



David - August 06, 2024 at 02:28 PM

AL

“ Antonio L. lit a candle in memory of Shanda McGruder-Morris



Antonio L. - August 06, 2024 at 10:49 AM

CJ

“ Such a sweetheart Rest peacefully !



charla king- jackson - August 06, 2024 at 10:17 AM

DM

“ Can't believe you're gone. You've been in my life since you were about 5yrs old. My heart goes out to the family. You will be truly missed

Dianne Mason - August 06, 2024 at 09:33 AM

DB

“ Dorothea Banks-Burse lit a candle in memory of Shanda McGruder-Morris



Dorothea Banks-Burse - August 06, 2024 at 08:42 AM

KS

“ *Kathy Straker lit a candle in memory of Shanda McGruder-Morris*



Kathy Straker - August 05, 2024 at 04:06 PM

TC

“ *Tracy Charleston-Blakes lit a candle in memory of Shanda McGruder-Morris*



Tracy Charleston-Blakes - August 05, 2024 at 03:38 PM

DP

“ *Deepest condolences to the family. Shanda is my great grandson's, A.J., grandmother.*

Darryl Pegues - August 05, 2024 at 01:59 PM